SOUTH AFRICA

1. First ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister (President Mandela has visited India thrice).
2. Visits to Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. Meetings with President Mandela, Deputy President Mbeki and several national and provincial Ministers.
3. Addrsss to South African Parliament at Cape Town where PM outlined specific measures to invest "Strategic partnership" between the two countries with new content and direction.
4. Visits to sites associated with Gandhiji's stay in South Africa — Tolstoy Farm and Fort at Johannesburg and Phoenix Settlement near Durban. PM announced an initial contribution of US$ 100,000 towards restoration of these sites to which both countries are jointly committed. He also announced institution of scheme of 12 annual awards to South Africans for outstanding contributions to community development, communal harmony and research on Gandhiji's work in South Africa (a corpus of Rs. 10 crores in intended to be invested for this purpose)
5. Establishment of a Chair on Gandhian Studies at University of Durban Westville and of a Gandhi Wing at Institute of Peace and Reconciliation to be set up at robben Island.
6. Agreement on cooperation in geology and mineral resources and in tourism concluded. Programme of cooperation in science and technology also signed. India Tourist Office inaugurated during PM's visit.
7. Terms of Reference of Indo-South African Commercial Alliance agreed to (roughly on lines of Indo-US Business Alliance and Indo-British Partnership). A CII Office has been opened in Johannesburg and 'Made in India' Show is to be inaugurated in Februrary. 1998.
8. Offer to assist South Africa in organisation of NAM Summit at Durban in August/September 1998.

Hinduja Power project at Visakhapatnam

*31. DR. MOHAN BABU:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made with respect to 1000 MW Hinduja power project after the laying of foundation stone at Visakhapatnam;

(b) what are the bottlenecks and constraints in the progress of the project;

(c) the steps taken for the removal of the hurdels; and

(d) by when the project is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The proposal of M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited for implementing the 1040 MW Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project was accorded techno-economic clearlance by the Central Electricity Authority on 25.7.1996.

(b) and (c) The Coal Supply & Transportation Agreement has to be negotiated and settled between M/s Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd. and M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd. The provisions of the agreement have also to be acceptable to Railways and Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Power Purchase Agreement between the promoters and Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board can only be finalised thereafter. This process has taken time. Government of India have been monitoring the progress to ensure that all avoidable delays are minimised.

(d) The project is scheduled for commissioning 44 months after the date of financial closure by the promoters.

Implementation of Fifth Pay Commission's recommendation in respect of clerks

*32. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper and Lower Division Clerks in the Central Secretariat Clerical Service

are being adversely affected by the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission particularly in the pay scales and transport allowance, etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any remedial measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to protect the interest of the aforesaid categories;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) The Upper Division Clerks and Lower Division Clerks in the Central Secretariat Clerical Service have not been adversely affected by the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission on pay scales and transport allowance.

(b) to (f) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Increase in Malaria in certain States

*33. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Plasimodium Falciparum Malaria is increasing in certain States this year;

(b) if so, the names of the States where this disease is on the increase;

(c) whether any special steps have been taken by Government to eradicate it;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Government have approached the World Bank for a loan of Rs. 891 crores for this purpose; and

(f) the State-wise allocation of the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The States of Goa, Karnataka, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli have reported increase in P. Falciparum Malaria Cases during the current year as compared to the P. Falciparum cases reported during the corresponding period of the last year. However, there has been an over all decline in P. Falciparum cases in the country during the current year.

(c) and (d) Malaria Control activities have been intensified throughout the country with focus on High Risk Areas which are predominatly reporting P. falciparum Malaria with deaths through an Integrated malaria Control strategy as under:—

1. Early case detection and prompt treatment (EDPT)
2. Selective Vector Control.
3. Promotion of personal protection methods.
4. Early detection and containment of epidemics.
5. Information, Education and Communication towards Community participation.
6. Institutional Management and capacity building, Trained manpower development and efficient Management Information System (M.I.S.)

Under the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) 100% Central Assistance is being provided to the 7 North Eastern States since December, 1994 as a special case.

Synthetic Pyrethroids have been introduced under the programme for being used selectively in the areas showing resistance to other conventional insecticides. A Pilot Project to consider introduction of Biolarvicides under the Programme has been initiated during 1996-97 in certain parts of Delhi, Maharashtra and West Bengal. Further, Medicated Mosquito Nets as a personal protection method have also been supplied to the North Eastern States during 1995-96 and 1996-97 on a pilot basis.

(e) and (f) An enhanced malaria Control Project with World bank support at a cost of Rs. 891.04 crores over a period of 5 years is being